



Board Meeting Minutes of the Indian Valley Associates (IVA)
For meeting held on September 11, 2012
Home of Lisa Marvier, 100 Pacheco Avenue, Novato CA 94947

Board Members:

Present: Rodney Bosche, Nita Bruinsslot, Jonell O'Day, Kitty Houghton, Bob Abeling, Monica Brett, Skip Fenner, Gary Frugoli, Craig Knowlton, Sherman Leland, Vicki Martinez, Lisa Marvier, Lynn Perry, Tom Tharsing, and Ron Witzel (Emeritus).

Absent: Ed Grundstrom, Barry Sheppard, and Bill Stewart.

Former Board member Vivian Poole also attended the meeting.

Meeting called to order at 7:32 pm by President Rodney Bosche.

Minutes: Minutes of the July 10, 2012 IVA Board meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Jonell gave a verbal Treasurer's Report as of September 11, to be distributed to the Board via e-mail in a few days. The balance in the IVA account was \$8,087. Expenditures were \$100 and receipts were \$200 in dues.

Road Safety: Rodney observed that the Sheriff's office and the CHP had both been patrolling Indian Valley Road, though they had not stationed cars lately to ticket traffic.

Use Permits/Variations: Bob, who had missed the July Board meeting, asked about the property mentioned in the minutes whose owners had applied for a permit to downsize and reconfigure. Nita clarified.

Website: Kitty reported that the website was up to date and all changes requested by the Board had been made.

Chipper Days: Board members praised the clear, easy-to-read signs at two prime locations on Indian Valley Road announcing Fall Chipper Days on October 13-14 and October 20-21. Tom Tharsing reported that he had applied to Fire Safe Marin for \$750 and had notified the Novato Fire District of the dates. Mr. Arbor will again do the chipping after the two weekends of brush dumping at both locations. The terms of his contract are the same as last time. Post cards announcing the fall dates were at the printer, and mailing was to be done at the end of the week if labels were available. Jonell maintains the IVA mailing list. There was discussion of more efficient ways to generate accurate labels to reach the residents in the valley, including taking the updated mailing list to Staples for labels printing. Tom will get funds from Jonell for postal stamps for the mailing.

CSA-20: Former IVA Board member Vivian Poole is the new Chair of the CSA-20 Committee.

Craig reported that Marin Parks and Recreation (MPR) is pushing for passage of Measure A on the November ballot, an initiative which would add 0.25% (one quarter of a percent) to Marin's current sales tax for the next nine years. This would cost each resident an estimated \$37 on average per year. It would raise an estimated \$10 million over the nine years to purchase easements to assure access for wildlife to their habitat, in the face of suburban encroachment, and to pay for other needs. A one percent sales tax supplement expired last year. CSA-20's unspent funds balance is \$89,837. Income last year from property tax revenues and interest income was \$10,522. Expenses were \$9,864.

MPR has 88 projected improvement plans that will cost an estimated \$33 million over ten years. If the ballot measure passes, 65 percent will be spent for the natural environment, 20 percent for family farms, and 15 percent for cities, towns, and special districts.

Gary confirmed that Chris Bramham, staff administrator of CSA-20 at MPR, had agreed to come speak at an IVA Board meeting. The CSA-20 Committee meets just twice a year. Any individual wishing to raise an issue may bring it to Vivian for inclusion on the agenda. Someone remarked that there was reluctance 20 years ago to spend money on fire breaks, but that heightened concern about fire danger today could mean greater receptivity on the part of County officials toward creation of fire breaks.

Interested residents can get on MPR's mailing list by going to the website at www.marincountyparks.org and signing up.

President's Report:

- (a) CDA letter to IVA: An August 7, 2012 letter from the Marin County Community Development Agency (CDA) inviting input from the IVA community on its Community Plan Update Strategy was mailed to the Board by Rodney. The Board recommended no response for now.
- (b) Ditch repair: A proposal to repair the ditch and culvert along Wilson Avenue near the intersection with Indian Valley Road was tabled for the present. Rodney said he planned to ask for funds after January 1.
- (c) Bicycle Committee: There was brief discussion about resuming the IVA's survey of users of the fire road for their views about bicycles on single track trails. Weekends and school breaks were deemed the best time to conduct the survey. An ad hoc committee of volunteers is working on this.
- (d) Wireless microphones: The Board asked the Treasurer to reimburse Nancy Niche for the microphones she bought with personal funds for use at next year's Annual Meeting.
- (e) Future meetings: After some discussion the Board decided to change the day of its regular meetings from Tuesdays to Thursdays. The next meeting will be held Thu. Nov. 8, 2012 at 7:30 pm at Rodney Bosche's house. The Annual Board Dinner will be held Thu. Jan. 24, 2013 (6:30 pm drinks, 7:30 pm dinner) at Rodney and Robin Bosche's house (moved from Tue. Jan. 22).

Open time:

- (a) Vicki raised the topic of Emergency Preparedness Plans for Indian Valley residents and offered to put together a basic list covering medical needs, provision for animals, and

home supplies which could be posted on the IVA website. Lisa volunteered to work with Vicki on the list. Hard copies of the list could be made available at the Annual Meeting.

- (b) There was renewed discussion of a resident's plan to start a dairy cooperative with cows and goats to make cheese. Zoning under code A2B4 allows for limited agricultural activity. But a permit is required for more than five large animals. The owner reportedly has 13 acres of grazing land. Board members believe the cooperative will be small, but they will keep an eye on the project.
- (c) Two other properties came up briefly.

Meeting adjourned by Rodney at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kitty Houghton, IVA Secretary, September 2012

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